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PATENT
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1634

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Ecker, Sampath, Griffey, and McNeil

Confirmation No. 9164

Serial No.: 09/310,667

Group Art Unit: 1634

Filed: May 12, 1999

Examiner: Frank Wei Min Lu

For: Identification Of Molecular Interaction Sites In RNA For Novel Drug Discovery

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

This is in response to the Final Rejection mailed January 15, 2003 and the Advisory Action mailed April 4, 2003, and accompanies a request for continued examination (RCE). Please amend the application as follows.

In the Figures

Please amend Figures 4 and 5A as presented in the attached pages.

In the Claims

Please amend claim 27 as follows.

27. An oligonucleotide comprising a molecular interaction site that is present in prokaryotic RNA and in at least one additional prokaryotic RNA, wherein said molecular interaction site serves as a binding site for at least one molecule that when bound to said molecular interaction